



Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church

Pastor: Father César Vega-Mendoza Pastor@olf.church
Deacons: Mark Krcma, Armando Escamilla,
Frank (Paco) Martinez

MISSION STATEMENT

We the Catholic community of Our Lady of Fatima united by faith, are called by God and empowered by the Holy Spirit to evangelize and assist in the faith formation of all.

We are committed to encourage, affirm and call forth everyone into participation by providing opportunity for ministry.

We seek to deepen our personal relationship with Jesus Christ Our Savior and provide an environment in which all have an opportunity for a greater sense of communion, family and community.



Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome to Our Lady of Fatima Parish

We welcome all our visitors. May your time with us be grace-filled and may the Lord Jesus Christ bless you and your loved ones.

OFFICE HOURS

Monday,-Friday 9am to 5:00pm

Phone: 509-765-6729

Website: olf.church

Flocknote: ourladyoffatima26@flocknote.com
Facebook: Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church,
Moses Lake, WA

Address: 200 N. Dale Road – Moses Lake, WA 98837

What's Happening at OLF This Week?

| | | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------------|---------------|--------------|
| Monday: | Posada 6pm | Bible Buddies Group 12pm | Vigil Mass Choir 5:30pm | Adult Choir 5:30pm | Apóstoles de la Palabra 6pm | Spanish Bible Class 6pm | Arco Iris 6pm | Ultreya 7pm. |
| Tuesday: | Posada 6pm | OCIA 6:30 pm | | | | | | |
| Wednesday: | Posada 6pm | T.O.P.S Group 8:30am | Rosary Group 9am | OLF Book Group 9am | | | | |
| Thursday | Posada 6pm | Soup Kitchen 11am-1pm | | | | | | |
| Friday | Posada 6pm | Children's Choir Practice 4-5pm | La Busqueda 6pm | | | | | |
| Saturday | Posada 6pm | | | | | | | |
| Sunday | Posada 6pm | | | | | | | |

Announcements:

- ◆ Posadas will be daily at 6 pm in the church from December 16th-23rd
 - ◆ No Youth Group 12/15 or 12/22, classes will resume Sunday 12/29
- ◆ The group for parents and adults on Wednesday nights will be on pause 12/18 so that parents can participate in the Posadas with their children

The deadline for adding Announcements or Information to the Bulletin is Wednesday each week
Please email requests to Administrator@olf.church

Advent Confessions December 16th-20th, Daily at 6pm-see schedule on page 5.

No Confessions the week of December 23rd-January 4th.

Normal Confessions will resume January 7th.

LITURGICAL SCHEDULE

WEEKDAY MASSES:

| | | |
|------------|--------|-----------------------|
| Monday | 7:00am | Eng Communion Service |
| Tues - Fri | 7:00am | Eng. Mass |
| | 7:30am | Rosary |
| Tue | 7:00pm | Sp. Mass |
| Thurs | 7:00pm | Sp. Mass |

ADORATION:

| | | |
|------------|--------------|------------------|
| Monday 7am | - Friday 7pm | Adoration Chapel |
| Thursday | Holy Hour | 6:00pm |

RECONCILIATION:

| | | |
|----------|------------------|---------------------|
| Tuesday | 5:30pm to 6:45pm | Church Confessional |
| Thursday | 6:00—6:50pm | During Holy Hour |
| Saturday | 3:30pm to 4:30pm | Chapel Confessional |

WEEKEND SCHEDULE:

| | | |
|----------------|---------|------|
| Saturday Vigil | 5:00pm | Eng. |
| | 7:00pm | Sp. |
| Sunday | 8:30am | Eng. |
| | 11:30am | Sp. |

First Friday & Saturday:**

| | | |
|--|--------|-----------|
| First Friday Mass | 7:00pm | Sp. |
| First Saturday Rosary | 6:30am | Bilingual |
| First Saturday Mass | 7:00am | Bilingual |
| followed by 15 mins. Adoration—Confessions available | | |

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rest of the Soul

Antoinette Wilcoxson, Manolo Pruneda, Bert Morales, Kristin Vedder, Lloyd Arbaugh, Adrian Baeza Escobedo, Margarita Hernandez, Joe Bernhart, Roberto DeLeon, Ramona Rodriguez, Pat Ramirez, Damien Rocha, Jesus Delgado, Rojelio Adame, Gloria Delgado, Tito Gonzalez, Sylbia Lopez, Enedina Garza, Brian Wilson, Yolanda Garcia, Rolando Adame, David Adame, Leonard Merdardo Delgado, Kim Hoiness, Angela Meza, Sebastian Baker, Adriel Miranda, Maria Hernandez, Marchell R Espinoza, Reyes De La Cruz, Diana Keller, Mitzy Cruz, James Nganga, Patricia Hutton, Lucy Gunn, Maria Cruz Rodriguez, Maria Luz Borjas, Helen Theis, Anthony Homer, Mitchell Thompson, Daniel Zarate, Zendaya Martinez, Leroy Gonzalez, Jessie Jimenez, Nickie Anderson, Lorna Paola Villanueva

Physical/Spiritual Health

Lucy Messer, Wililam McCormick, Jean Agbisit, Lorraine Medrano, Anita Huerta, Corinne Gebelin, Gina Ruiz, Francisca Garcia, Fran Bill, Jill Murray, Sally Richards, Corina Miranda, Minga Rubio, Darlene Boechler, Gail Altenhofen, Diane Stevenson

Military:

Daniel Jay, Shane Herup, James Herron, Christopher E. Uvalle, David Martinez, Paul E. Hanover, John Herup, JC Hernández, Bettany Noregas

*If you would like names added to the above lists,
Please contact the Parish Office.*

Letter From Father César



Dear Parish Family,

This weekend we celebrate “*Gaudete*”. We hear today’s Mass begins with the opening antiphon, “*Gaudete in Domino semper*” (“*Rejoice in the Lord always*”). We light the rose candle of the Advent wreath, and the priest may wear rose vestments to express our communal joy in the coming of Jesus, as our Savior. The theme of the third Sunday of Advent is *rejoicing in hope*.

Advent is a time for joy, not only because we are anticipating the anniversary of the birth of Jesus, but also because God is already in our midst. Christian joy does not come from the absence of sorrow, pain or trouble, but from an awareness of the presence of Christ within our souls.

On this weekend’s first reading, the prophet Zephaniah says, “*Shout for joy, O Zion! Sing joyfully, O Israel.*” Zephaniah made this prophetic proclamation at the height of the Jewish exile when things appeared hopeless and unbearable. The instruction is repeated in the response to the Psalm, “*Sing and shout for joy for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.*”

St. Paul echoes the same message of joy in the second reading, taken from his letter to the Philippians: “*Rejoice in the Lord always. I shall say it again, rejoice... The Lord is in your midst... Fear not... be not discouraged... The Lord is near. Have no anxiety at all...*” Paul was imprisoned when he made this appeal for rejoicing.

In the gospel today, John the Baptist explains the secret of Christian joy as wholehearted commitment to God’s way by doing His will. A sad Christian is a contradiction in terms. According to the Baptizer, happiness comes from doing our duties faithfully, doing good to others and sharing our blessings with others. John’s call to repentance is a call to joy and restoration. *Repentance* means a change in the purpose and direction of our lives. Filled with joyful expectation that the Messiah was near, the people asked John, “*What should we do?*” He told them to act with justice, charity and honesty, letting their lives reflect their transformation. For us, that transformation occurs when Christ enters our lives, and it is to be reflected in our living in the ways John suggested.

“Don’t you give out warnings?” A state trooper Once he stopped a woman for going 15 miles an hour over the speed limit. After he handed her a ticket, she asked him, “Don’t you give out warnings?” “Yes, ma’am,” he replied. “They’re all up and down the road. They say, ‘Speed Limit 55.’” People have a tendency to disregard the warning signs, don’t they? Sometimes with dire consequences. Today’s gospel presents John the Baptist warning the Jewish People of the need of repentance and conversion with prophetic courage.

We pray this weekend we see the signs/warnings about lives. May we rejoice in the blessings we have received from the Lord, and may we make the proper changes were needed to live in wholeness of life as God intends from us.

Advent Greetings and Blessings,
Rev. César Vega-Mendoza
Pastor

The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a mighty savior; he will rejoice over you with gladness, and renew you in his love

Zephaniah 3:17

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-18A

Responsorial Psalm

Isaiah 12:2-3,4,5-6

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel

Luke 3:10-18

Gospel Reflection

The 3rd Sunday of Advent, also known as Gaudete Sunday, invites us to rejoice and find hope in the coming of our Lord. The readings from Zephaniah, Philippians, and Luke encourage us to celebrate God's presence, find peace in His love, and prepare our hearts for Jesus. We are reminded of the joy and anticipation that this special time of Advent brings. Returning to Joy and Hope

Rejoicing in God's Presence

The first reading is from Zephaniah. It speaks of joy and celebration because God is with His people. Zephaniah tells us to shout for joy and be glad because the Lord has removed the judgment against us. He is in our midst, and we have no reason to fear. This reading reminds us of the theme of joyful anticipation. We are called to be happy and hopeful because God is near. When we feel anxious or worried, we can find comfort in knowing that God is with us. He loves us and will take care of us.

God's presence brings peace and safety. Zephaniah describes a world where God protects and saves His people. This is a powerful image of God's love and care. We are encouraged to trust in God and believe that He will keep us safe. On the 3rd Sunday of Advent Year C, we focus on rejoicing and being glad. Zephaniah's words remind us to celebrate because God is with us. As we prepare for Christmas, let's remember to find joy in God's presence and share that joy with others.

Finding Joy and Peace in God

The second reading is from Philippians. St. Paul tells us to always rejoice in the Lord and not to worry about anything. He encourages us to pray and give thanks to God, and then we will experience God's peace. This reading emphasizes the theme of joyful anticipation. St. Paul reminds us that joy comes from knowing God is near. When we focus on God and His love for us, we can find happiness even in difficult times.

St. Paul also talks about the peace of God. This peace is not like the peace the world gives. It is a deep sense of calm and trust that God is taking care of us. When we feel anxious or worried, we can turn to God in prayer and experience His peace. On the 3rd Sunday of Advent, we are invited to rejoice and be at peace. St. Paul's words remind us to focus on God and His blessings. As we prepare for Christmas, let's remember to find joy and peace in our relationship with God and share that joy with others.

Embracing the Change Jesus Brings

The Gospel shows how Jesus brings change. John the Baptist speaks of Jesus, who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire. He describes Jesus holding a winnowing fan to clear the threshing floor, separating the wheat from the chaff. This shows that Jesus will bring a new way of living, one that challenges the old ways. Some of us feel comfortable with the way things are. Life is good, and we do not want it to change. We feel secure and happy. Others among us welcome change because we live in difficult situations. We hope for a better life and trust that change will bring it. Some of us are in between, wanting change but also fearing the loss of what we have.

We often hold tightly to our possessions and positions, wanting to secure our future. But God's vision is bigger. He dreams of a world where everyone has what they need. This is a good time to reflect on our lives. Are we helping to build a world where everyone is cared for? Or are we part of systems that keep people down?

The 3rd Sunday of Advent invites us to welcome the change Jesus brings. It encourages us to look beyond our comfort and seek God's bigger plan. By doing this, we prepare our hearts for Jesus' coming and help create a more just and loving world.

Let us carry the themes of joy, peace, and preparation in our hearts. Let us rejoice in God's presence, find comfort in His peace, and actively prepare for Jesus' coming.

May we be inspired to live out our faith with renewed hope and love during this Advent season.

Advent Prayer

Lord, fill our hearts with joy and peace as we prepare for Jesus' coming. Help us to rejoice in Your presence and trust in Your care. Guide us to share Your love with others. Amen.

Reflection Questions

- ◆ What changes can I make to better align my life with God's vision?
- ◆ How does knowing God is with me help me face challenges?
- ◆ What actions can I take to build a more just and loving community?
- ◆ How can I help others find joy and peace during this Advent season?

FAMILY CONNECTION

The theme of the season of Advent is sometimes described as a period of waiting for the birth of Jesus. However, today's Gospel reading suggests something different. John the Baptist did not tell the crowds to wait for the Messiah. He told them to prepare for the Messiah through acts of repentance. If Advent is a time of waiting, it is not the sitting in the doctor's office kind of waiting. It is a busy time of preparation, more like the waiting we might do when preparing for dinner guests. Our challenge is to not make this season a frenzied time, but rather a time of joyful anticipation and making ready for God who comes to dwell among us and changes our lives with the gift of salvation.

As you gather as a family, talk about the preparations your family is making during the season of Advent. Reflect together on these activities, not only on what you are doing but why you are choosing to do these things. Read together today's Gospel, Luke 3:10-18. Consider how Advent is a time for making ourselves ready to receive Jesus in our lives. Could your family make some changes in your Advent activities so that each person is well prepared to celebrate the gift of salvation at Christmas? Conclude in prayer together that your family will be able to live the spirit of Advent. Sing together an Advent song, such as "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" or pray together today's second reading, Philippians 4:4-7, as you light the third candle on your Advent wreath.

PREPARES NEEDS YOUR HELP!

Prepares is in need of a bilingual volunteer to help with phone calls. It takes about an hour per month and we supply the numbers. If this is something you can do as a Friend of Prepares, please call:

Rosalie 509-431-4364
Jo 253-307-1574

Thank you and God bless your answer to help families with babies.

Parents Group During Religious Education:

This week, December 18th, the parent group **will not** be meeting-it is encouraged to participate in the Posadas with your children!

Group will reconvene January 15th, 2025 at 6pm during Religious Education classes.

For information or questions, please call Hilary at 480-740-4082

Religious Education News and Information

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION OF OUR LADY OF FATIMA

INVITES YOU TO PARTICIPATE IN THE

Christmas Posada

DECEMBER 18

6:00
PM

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION CLASSES ARE CANCELED WITH THE NORMAL ACTIVITIES IN THE CLASSROOMS SO THAT THE STUDENTS ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR PARENTS AND FAMILY PARTICIPATE IN THE CHRISTMAS POSADA THERE WILL BE NO TEACHER SUPERVISING DO NOT FORGET TO FILL OUT THE ENVELOPES SO THAT IT COUNTS AS ATTENDANCE



YOUTH GROUP UPDATES!!!

Our next Youth Group will be
December 29th, 6-8pm
Be there or be square!
All Kids Grades 9-12 welcome!!!

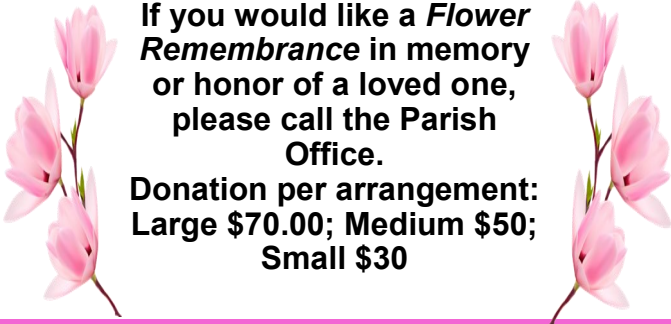
Follow us on Instagram:
[OLF_Youth_Group_Rocks](#)



MASS INTENTIONS

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------|------------------|---|
| Wed | 18th | 7 am (En) | Linda Egan (D), Andrew Betes (D), All Souls of Purgatory |
| Thurs | 19th | 7 am (En) | Mary Lou Roberge (B) |
| | | 7 pm (Sp) | Almas de Purgatorio, Salomon Garcia (D), Maria del Refugio Garcia (D) |
| Fri | 20th | 7 am (En) | Phil & Geneva Herman (D) |

Remembrance Flowers



If you would like a *Flower Remembrance* in memory or honor of a loved one, please call the Parish Office.

Donation per arrangement:
Large \$70.00; Medium \$50;
Small \$30

THANK YOU!

Eucharistic Ministry to the Homebound & Nursing Homes

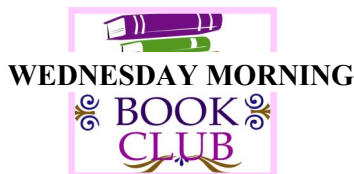
If anyone knows of a parishioner or someone who is homebound or in one of the local nursing homes who would like to receive Holy Communion, please call
Carrie Tatum 509-989-6591



Knights of Columbus Become a Knight!

The Knights of Columbus meet every 1st and 3rd Thursday at 7 pm in the Fatima Center.

Come see what the Knights are about. If you would like to know more, please call Grand Knight,
Roland G. 509-717-8800



We invite everyone to join us on Wednesday mornings at 9 am in the Fatima Center as we gather for prayer and discussion of the latest book we are reading. For information, call Dee at 509-750-6728



6:00pm

- Fri/Vie** 13 St. Rose of Lima, Ephrata.
- Mon/Lun** 16 Queen of all Saints, Warden.
- Tue/Mar** 17 St. Michael the Archangel, Royal City.
- Wed/Mie** 18 St. Pius X, Quincy.
- Thur/Jue** 19 Our Lady of the Desert, Mattawa.
- Fri/Vie** 20 Our Lady of Fatima, Moses Lake.

Let us prepare the way to the Lord.

Preparamos el camino del Señor.

Holiday Mass Schedule

Christmas Eve

5 pm English
8 pm Spanish

Christmas Day

9 am English
11:30 am Spanish

New Years Eve

7 pm Bilingual Mass

New Years Day

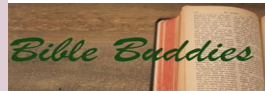
9 am English
11:30 Spanish



Catholic Charities

SERVING CENTRAL WASHINGTON

Your Offering on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day helps Catholic Charities become the hands and feet of Jesus to more than 65,000 people throughout Central Washington. If you intend to give a Christmas gift directly to the parish, please do so on a different day.



**Be a part of the
Bible Buddies
Bible encounter group!**

We meet on

Mondays from noon to 1:15 pm
in the Fatima Center

Our focus? To open our Bibles to read and discuss the upcoming Sunday's Mass readings.

Informal, fun and light hearted
Bring a lunch if you want.

All are welcome!



ITS BACK!

Our Next Bunco Night will be Friday January 31st, 2025!

\$30 per person-dinner will be provided.
Bring your friends and enjoy a fun night of games, food, and drinks!

Abundance of Blessings Gala "The Numbers So Far"

| Incomes | Expenses | Net |
|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| \$92,765.00 | \$13,165.60 | \$79,599.40 |

**SAVE THE DATE!!!
Saturday November 15th, 2025
Annual Abundance of Blessings Gala**

Our Lady of Fatima Financials at a glance

| Operation Account-November Totals | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Total Regular Monthly Income | \$48,851.62 |
| Total Regular Expenses | \$63,683.14 |
| Net Gain/Loss | \$14,831.52 |
| Building Fund Account-October Totals | |
| Total Income | \$106,657.00 |
| Total Expenses | \$45,085.10 |
| Net Gain/Loss | \$61,571.90 |

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| Restaurant 317 W. Broadway Ave 509-764-8611 | Catering Call for info 509-855-6676 | Espresso 407 Melva Lane 509-361-8161 | Taqueria 1571 Yonezawa Blvd 509-855-1741 |

[/TacosElReyUSA](https://www.facebook.com/TacosElReyUSA) [/TacosElReyUSA](https://www.instagram.com/TacosElReyUSA) TacosElReyUSA.Com

Columbia Basin Eye Clinic, P.S.

Dr. Brian Roth, M.D. Ophthalmologist
Dr. Janet Huber, O.D. Optometrist
Timothy C. Thomas, O.D. Optometrist

1022 West Ivy Avenue
509-765-7845

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LAKESIDE OPTICAL

Optician: Kevin Carvo
1020 W. Ivy, Moses Lake 509-765-3497
lakesideoptical.com

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Familia de León

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Pioneer Veterinary Clinic
Dick Maier, D.V.M.
Courtney Redding, D.V.M.
Kryshelle Ballard, D.V.M.
Jennifer Brown, D.V.M.
827 Sharon Ave. 765-6794

Handy Man
Jorge Rodriguez
509-431-3977

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Products Paul Mitchell, Johnny B, Biolage, Fantasy Jewelry and more.
Se habla español